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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

APRIL 1984

A Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

MAINE COUNTIES RANK HIGH IN PERSONAL INCOME GAINS

THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE HAS RELEASED 1982 PERSONAL INCOME ESTIMATES FOR ALL U.S. COUNTIES. FOUR MAINE COUNTIES HAD AMONG THE HIGHEST TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME GROWTH RATES IN NEW ENGLAND FROM 1981 TO 1982. CUMBERLAND COUNTY WAS FIFTH AMONG METROPOLITAN COUNTIES, AND SAGADAHOC, LINCOLN, AND SOMERSET COUNTIES WERE AMONG THE TOP FIVE NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES.

PERSONAL INCOME INCREASED 7.5 PERCENT IN NEW ENGLAND DURING THIS PERIOD, WHICH WAS 1.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS MORE THAN THE NATIONAL INCREASE AND THIRD AMONG EIGHT REGIONS INTO WHICH THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVIDES THE U.S. ALL NEW ENGLAND STATES HAD INCREASES IN PERSONAL INCOME LARGER THAN THE NATIONAL INCREASE. PERSONAL INCOME IN MAINE INCREASED BY 6.4 PERCENT.

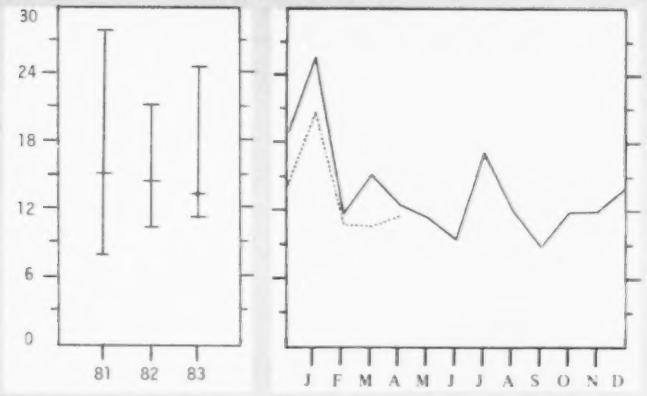
FOLLOWING IS A TABLE PRESENTING THE COUNTIES WITH THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE GAINS IN PERSONAL INCOME FROM 1981 TO 1982.

NEW ENGLAND COUNTIES WITH LARGEST PERCENTAGE INCREASES, 1981-1982*
TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

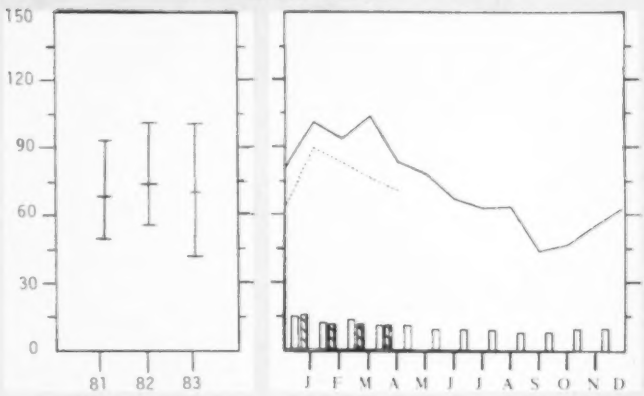
METROPOLITAN COUNTIES	PERCENT CHANGE	NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES	PERCENT CHANGE
ROCKINGHAM, NH	9.9	SAGADAHOC, ME	15.9
HILLSBOROUGH, NH	9.3	NANTUCKET, MA	11.8
NEW LONDON, CT	8.9	LINCOLN, ME	10.6
CHITTENDEN, VT	8.9	SOMERSET, ME	10.3
CUMBERLAND, ME	8.8	DUKES, MA	8.9

* EXCLUDING COUNTIES WITH 1982 PERSONAL INCOMES LESS THAN $50 MILLION.

UI Initial Claims
in Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed
in Thousands



AS MAINE GOES, SO GOES THE NATION ?

IS MAINE AN INDICATOR OF NATIONAL TRENDS AS IT ONCE WAS ON THE POLITICAL SCENE? NO, ACCORDING TO DETAILED U.S. SUMMARY DATA FROM THE 1980 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING. THE CENSUS BUREAU HAS RECENTLY RELEASED GENERAL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS AND DETAILED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE UNITED STATES. PUBLICATIONS OF THE SAME TITLES CONTAINING COMPARABLE INFORMATION HAVE ALREADY BEEN RELEASED FOR MAINE. ALL OF THE PUBLICATIONS CAN BE ACCESSED AT THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S CENSUS DATA CENTER.

MAINE'S POPULATION IS OVERWHELMINGLY WHITE, WITH RACIAL AND HISPANIC MINORITIES COMPRISING ONLY 1.8 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL. BY COMPARISON, OVER 23 PERCENT OF THE U.S. POPULATION ARE PERSONS OF EITHER NONWHITE RACE OR SPANISH ORIGIN, OR BOTH. THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS LIVING IN THE U.S. WHO WERE BORN IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY ARE FROM MEXICO (15.6 PERCENT), WHILE IMMIGRANTS IN MAINE ARE OVERWHELMINGLY FROM CANADA (62.6 PERCENT).

IN THE U.S. AS A WHOLE, 73.7 PERCENT OF ALL PERSONS LIVE IN URBAN AREAS. MAINE'S URBAN COMPONENT IS ONLY 47.5 PERCENT. IN 1980, ONLY 3.2 PERCENT OF ALL U.S. OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS USED WOOD AS THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF HEATING FUEL COMPARED TO 15.1 PERCENT FOR MAINE.

HOUSING UNITS IN MAINE ARE GENERALLY OLDER, WITH 47.5 PERCENT BUILT BEFORE 1940, COMPARED TO ONLY 26 PERCENT NATIONWIDE. HOUSING EXPENSES IN MAINE WERE LOWER THAN FOR THE NATION AS A WHOLE. MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH MORTGAGES WERE $317 IN MAINE COMPARED TO $366 IN THE UNITED STATES. MEDIAN GROSS RENTS IN MAINE AND THE U.S. WERE $216 AND $243, RESPECTIVELY.

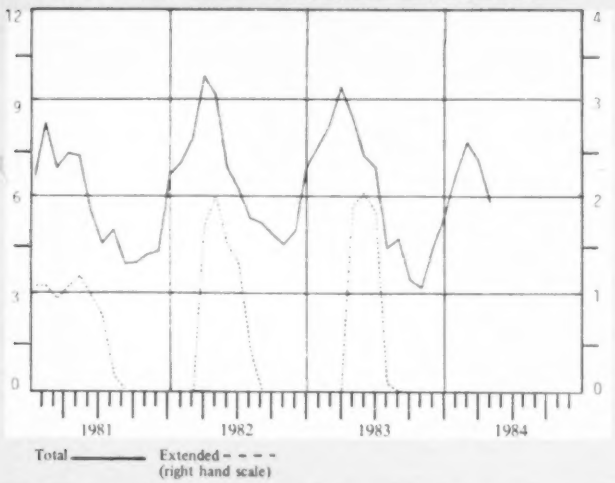
THESE CHARACTERISTICS AND MANY OTHERS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE 1980 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING FOR THE UNITED STATES, REGIONS, DIVISIONS, STATES, AND, WITHIN MAINE, MOST CITIES, TOWNS, AND COUNTIES. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS BOSTON REGIONAL OFFICE, (617) 223-0226; OR THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, CENSUS DATA CENTER, (207) 289-2271.

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments

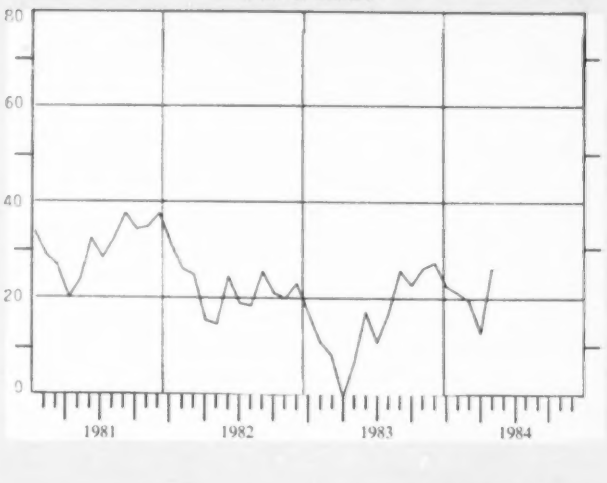
in Million Dollars

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

in Thousands

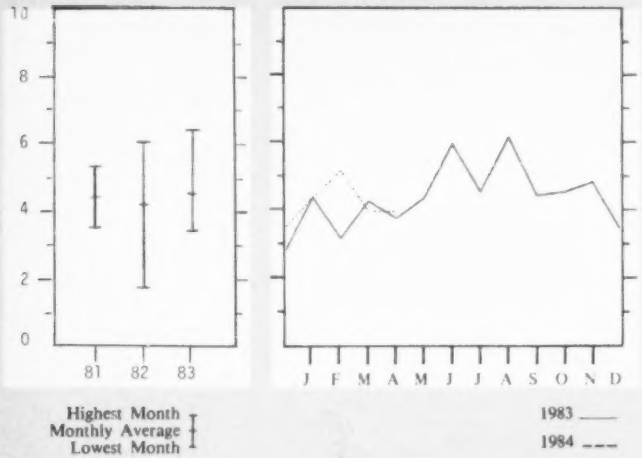
ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND SMSA This Month	PORTLAND SMSA Last Month	PORTLAND SMSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary 1/	421.7	414.0	410.6	99.6	98.0	93.7	34.0	33.5	33.1
Total Manufacturing	108.0	109.0	106.2	16.8	16.6	15.9	11.5	11.4	10.8
Durable Goods	40.4	41.6	38.9	7.4	7.2	6.3	2.2	2.2	1.9
Lumber and Wood Products 2/	11.5	12.9	10.9	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Metals and Machinery	16.3	16.3	14.4	5.9	5.8	5.3	1.8	1.8	1.5
Other Durable Goods 3/	12.6	12.4	13.6	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3
Nondurable Goods	67.6	67.4	67.3	9.4	9.4	9.6	9.3	9.2	8.9
Food and Kindred Products	8.0	8.3	7.7	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.9	0.8	0.9
Textile Mill Products	7.3	7.2	6.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	1.6	1.5
Apparel	5.0	4.9	4.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.1	0.1	0.1
Paper and Allied Products	18.7	18.6	18.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.7	0.7	0.6
Leather and Leather Products	18.7	18.5	20.9	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.6	3.5	3.4
Footwear (except Rubber)	15.7	15.5	17.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.0	2.9	2.8
All Other	3.0	3.0	3.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	9.9	9.9	9.4	4.6	4.6	4.5	2.5	2.5	2.4
Total Nonmanufacturing	313.7	305.0	304.4	82.8	81.4	77.8	22.5	22.1	22.3
Mining	0.2	0.1	0.2	*	*	*	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	15.3	13.4	14.5	4.3	3.8	3.8	1.2	1.1	1.1
Transportation and Public Utilities	17.6	17.6	17.8	5.4	5.4	5.5	1.2	1.2	1.3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	94.5	89.9	89.2	27.2	26.7	25.5	7.9	7.7	7.8
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	18.5	18.3	17.8	8.7	8.6	8.3	1.7	1.6	1.6
Services	83.2	80.9	80.4	22.8	22.2	21.2	7.4	7.3	7.3
Government	84.4	84.8	84.5	14.4	14.7	13.5	3.1	3.2	3.2
Federal	18.1	18.3	18.0	1.4	1.5	1.4	0.2	0.3	0.3
State and Local 5/	66.3	66.5	66.5	13.0	13.2	12.1	2.9	2.9	2.9
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/Employment figures relate to full - and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/Lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures are combined in the Portland series. 3/Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 37, 38, 39; Portland - 32, 37, 38, 39; Lewiston - 25, 32, 37, 39. 4/Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 27, 28, 29, 30; Portland - 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30; Lewiston - 23, 27, 28, 29, 30. 5/Regular teachers are inlcuded in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 100.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

New Applications For Work

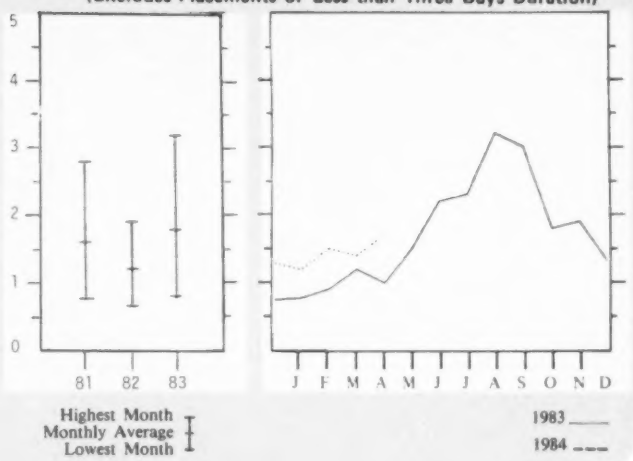
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1983	1982	1981
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$315.57	$296.76	$296.91	40.2	37.9	39.8	$ 7.85	$ 7.83	$ 7.46	$ 7.61	$ 7.22	$6.66
Durable Goods	327.22	300.66	315.61	40.8	38.3	39.5	8.02	7.85	7.99	8.04	7.59	6.97
Lumber and Wood Products	287.34	278.20	271.91	40.7	38.8	38.9	7.06	7.17	6.99	7.37	6.87	6.52
Metals and Machinery	318.06	298.94	296.72	41.2	39.7	39.3	7.72	7.53	7.55	7.59	7.15	6.61
Other Durable Goods	382.18	332.01	378.14	40.4	35.7	40.4	9.46	9.30	9.36	9.31	8.84	7.98
Nondurable Goods	308.45	294.41	286.48	39.8	37.6	39.9	7.75	7.83	7.18	7.37	7.00	6.48
Food and Kindred Products	235.14	211.20	220.89	36.4	32.0	37.0	6.46	6.60	5.97	6.10	5.84	5.50
Textile Mill Products	258.16	248.88	226.69	42.6	40.6	39.7	6.06	6.13	5.71	5.87	5.49	5.17
Apparel	201.60	181.12	191.69	35.0	32.4	36.1	5.76	5.59	5.31	5.39	5.23	4.97
Paper and Allied Products	508.50	500.64	477.01	45.2	44.7	45.3	11.25	11.20	10.53	10.95	10.10	9.27
Leather and Leather Products	214.18	196.81	209.99	36.8	33.7	37.7	5.82	5.84	5.57	5.59	5.46	5.10
Other Nondurable Goods	273.29	261.52	260.29	38.6	37.2	39.8	7.08	7.03	6.54	6.60	6.23	5.75
PORTLAND SMSA												
Manufacturing	311.62	287.23	285.01	39.9	37.4	37.8	7.81	7.68	7.54	7.67	7.19	6.49
LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA												
Manufacturing	247.15	230.91	242.78	38.2	35.8	39.8	6.47	6.45	6.10	6.16	5.96	5.57

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 2/
Labor Force	231.4	223.5	215.0
Unemployed	16.6	17.7	18.7
(Percent)	7.2%	7.9%	8.7%
Resident Employed	214.8	205.8	196.3

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec
(1967=100) All Items [illegible]	308.8	307.3	295.5	303.5

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.5%
Percent Change from Last December	+1.7%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+4.5%

1/ Preliminary estimates 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE Statewide	545.3	529.1	525.6	504.3	484.8	471.9	41.0	44.3	53.7	7.5	8.4	10.2
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor-Brewer LMA	44,800	43,500	43,700	42,100	40,500	40,100	2,700	3,000	3,600	6.0	6.9	8.2
Biddeford-Sanford LMA	34,700	33,800	32,900	32,300	30,900	29,600	2,400	2,900	3,300	6.9	8.6	10.0
Lewiston-Auburn SMSA	40,300	39,500	38,500	37,600	36,400	34,700	2,700	3,100	3,800	6.7	7.8	9.9
Portland SMSA	104,700	102,200	96,200	100,000	96,800	89,400	4,700	5,400	6,800	4.5	5.3	7.1
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	30,540	29,830	29,040	28,320	27,540	26,510	2,220	2,290	2,530	7.3	7.7	8.7
Bath-Brunswick	24,310	23,600	24,970	23,030	22,070	23,410	1,280	1,530	1,560	5.3	6.5	6.2
Belfast	11,680	12,010	11,090	10,130	9,900	9,280	1,550	2,110	1,810	13.3	17.6	16.3
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	8,200	8,000	7,630	7,470	7,120	6,860	730	880	770	8.9	11.0	10.1
Calais-Eastport	14,890	14,210	15,480	12,900	12,400	12,720	1,990	1,810	2,760	13.4	12.7	17.8
Caribou-Presque Isle	21,520	20,830	20,910	18,690	17,750	18,010	2,330	3,080	2,900	13.2	14.8	13.9
Central Penobscot	3,620	3,460	3,470	3,340	3,180	3,090	280	280	380	7.7	8.1	11.0
Dover-Foxcroft	6,760	6,520	6,650	6,230	6,070	5,910	530	450	740	7.8	6.9	11.1
Ellsworth	21,240	19,570	20,590	19,310	17,560	18,220	1,930	2,010	2,370	9.1	10.3	11.5
Farmington	13,050	12,890	13,520	11,770	11,680	12,160	1,280	1,210	1,360	9.8	9.4	10.1
Fort Kent-Allagash	4,980	5,030	4,860	4,080	4,390	3,840	900	640	1,020	18.1	12.7	21.0
Greenville	1,430	1,510	1,270	1,310	1,420	1,080	120	90	180	8.4	6.0	15.0
Houlton	5,220	4,910	5,110	4,720	4,450	4,340	500	460	770	9.6	9.4	15.1
Lincoln-Howland	5,960	5,810	6,080	5,500	5,390	5,230	460	420	850	7.7	7.2	14.0
Livermore Falls	6,310	6,170	6,000	5,600	5,310	5,230	710	860	770	11.3	13.9	12.8
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,380	4,160	4,540	3,820	3,560	3,800	560	600	740	12.8	14.4	16.3
Mechanic Falls	2,530	2,260	2,400	2,280	1,980	2,020	250	280	380	9.9	12.4	15.8
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,170	5,030	5,440	4,870	4,750	4,940	300	280	500	5.8	5.6	9.2
Patten-Island Falls	2,220	2,130	2,360	1,920	1,940	1,870	300	190	490	13.5	8.9	20.8
Rockland	18,480	18,350	17,860	16,910	16,730	15,540	1,570	1,620	2,320	8.5	8.8	13.0
Rumford	20,670	20,430	20,700	18,740	18,580	18,200	1,930	1,850	2,500	9.3	9.1	12.1
Sebago Lake Region	11,880	11,520	11,120	11,120	10,680	9,970	760	840	1,150	6.4	7.3	10.3
Skowhegan	21,760	21,240	21,230	19,430	19,720	18,250	2,330	2,520	2,980	10.7	11.9	14.0
Kittery-York	22,720	20,110	21,120	22,080	19,310	20,150	640	800	970	2.8	4.0	4.6
Southwest Penobscot	8,620	8,490	8,250	7,510	7,240	7,030	1,110	1,250	1,220	12.9	14.7	14.8
Waterville	22,750	22,220	22,650	21,280	20,560	20,420	1,470	1,660	2,230	6.5	7.5	9.8
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,610.3	1,599.9	n/a	1,534.7	1,495.1	n/a	75.6	104.8	n/a	4.7	6.6
Massachusetts	3,036.0	3,002.0	2,929.2	2,883.0	2,826.0	2,733.0	153.0	175.0	196.2	5.0	5.8	6.7
New Hampshire	n/a	505.1	491.8	n/a	480.7	460.1	n/a	24.4	31.7	n/a	4.8	6.4
Rhode Island	479.6	476.9	477.7	447.8	442.9	434.5	31.8	34.0	43.2	6.6	7.1	9.0
Vermont	n/a	265.2	265.8	n/a	245.0	244.5	n/a	20.2	21.3	n/a	7.6	8.0
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	5,858.5	5,764.4	n/a	5,529.3	5,367.2	n/a	329.2	397.2	n/a	5.6	6.9
UNITED STATES 3/	112,152	111,828	109,875	103,628	102,770	98,840	8,525	9,057	11,035	7.6	8.1	10.0

Area Definitions
LMA - Labor Market Area
SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note
n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes
1. Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
2. Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.
3. National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND SMSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	13,608	15,230	16,976	1,457	1,824	2,065	847	1,008	1,090
Insured Unemployment Rate *	3.4	3.8	4.3	1.7	2.2	2.6	2.6	3.1	3.4

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

Selected Characteristics Of Unemployment Insurance Claimants

REGULAR PROGRAM 1/

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY OCCUPATION

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Professional, Technical, and Managerial	8.6	8.0	9.4
Clerical and Sales	17.6	16.6	18.9
Service	10.5	11.2	9.0
Agricultural, Fishery, Forestry, and Related	3.0	2.3	3.0
Processing	3.6	3.3	3.6
Machine Trades	11.5	11.4	10.9
Benchwork	9.3	9.1	7.8
Structural Work	20.3	22.4	21.7
Miscellaneous	15.6	15.7	15.7

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY AGE

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Total under 40	56.9	57.0	61.0
Under 22	6.4	6.3	6.3
22-24	10.4	10.6	11.2
25-34	29.8	29.8	33.1
35-39	10.3	10.3	10.4
Total 40 and Over	43.1	43.0	39.0
40-44	8.0	7.7	7.9
45-54	12.7	11.8	13.9
55-64	9.8	9.8	11.1
65 and Over	12.6	13.7	6.1

1/ Data refers to continued claimants who received benefits under the regular state unemployment insurance program.

The Bureau of Employment Security is affiliated with the U.S. Employment and Training Administration and is a Federal-State Statistical Program Cooperative Representative of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics..

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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
Lab 449

APRIL 1984

MAINE JOB SERVICE

"For Qualified Workers Contact Your Local Bureau of Employment Security Job Service Office"

Labor Market Information Services